

1983

Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #81-82-2: Part III

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE
BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Frank Newman

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report
#81-82-2: Part III

is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on March 31, 1983
(date)
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on April 21, 1983 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Regents for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

April 1, 1983
(date)

James Findlay
James Findlay
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

1. Returned.
2. a. Approved ✓.
- b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors _____.
- c. Disapproved _____.

4/7/83
(date)

F. Newman
President

8.16.10 University College. All qualified freshman- and sophomore-level students who plan to pursue a curriculum leading ultimately to a Baccalaureate degree shall be admitted to the University College rather than to any of the other colleges.

8.16.11 Admission of any student to the University College shall be based upon his/her school record and upon other indicators of his/her chances for success at URI in four-year academic programs requiring various combinations of verbal, mathematical, science or fine arts ability and substantial individual effort. Within these limitations, the admissions process shall encourage enrollment of students representing diverse educational backgrounds, abilities and interests.

8.16.10 The University College. Except for students matriculating in College of Continuing Education programs, all qualified freshman students who plan to pursue a curriculum leading ultimately to a baccalaureate degree shall be admitted to the University College (3.21.20). (See 8.13.10 for admission of transfer students) Students admitted to programs in the College of Continuing Education are not subject to the provisions of 8.16.11 through 8.16.16.

The changes clarify the status of students matriculating in the College of Continuing Education.

The Committee recommends deletion of the section.

Admission policies are dealt with in other manual sections; hence, we recommend deletion because the paragraph is redundant.

8.16.12 Details of admission standards shall be established by a joint Senate-Administration committee which shall be able to engage within budget limitations the services of consultants in the areas of psychology, statistics and computation as may be required. The make-up of this committee shall be recommended to the Senate by its Executive Committee. Admissions shall not be based, even in part, upon the "PGA" (predicted Grade Point Average) formulas used at URI in 1971 or earlier, but may be based upon similar instruments designed to predict success in the URI academic programs as changed by Senate actions since 1970. The committee shall not be restricted to prescribing a single admissions formula. It shall be free to specify somewhat different admissions criteria as predictors of student success in a few, broad areas. For example, students may be admitted to the University College, provided they rank high in any one of three PGA scores: one designed to predict success in the natural sciences and related areas (including Engineering, Pharmacy, and some areas of Resource Development or Human Science and Services); another designed to predict success in Arts and Humanities programs (including Elementary Education) and a third for Social Sciences (including Business and several programs in Human Science and Services and Resource Development).

8.16.13 The University College shall make it possible for students to acquire education and skills basic to any one of the several baccalaureate programs at URI.

8.16.14 Students who have a clear educational or professional objective when they enter the University shall be encouraged to pursue this objective as directly and rapidly as possible, subject to the educational requirements established by the various college faculties and approved by the Senate. They shall be assigned to advisors drawn from the area to which they are seeking entrance.

8.16.15 Entering freshmen who do not know which curriculum they want to select shall be encouraged to experiment and to "sample" courses in several fields of study. Such students shall also have access to an effective advising system (3.21.21) and shall select at an appropriate time courses of study which will satisfy entrance requirements to one or more URI colleges and curriculums. They shall be assigned to advisors by the Dean of the University College.

8.16.16 Students with advanced placement shall be enrolled in the University College under the provisions of 8.16.14 or 8.16.15, whichever applies.

* 8.16.17 A student at another institution who has earned 24 transfer credits, and has met all the requirements for admission to a specific degree-granting college at the University of Rhode Island, may be admitted directly to that college. The student, however, may elect to enter the University College, providing not more than 60 transfer credits are presented.

The Committee recommends: 1) deletion of the section and 2) that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee initiate discussion on the mission and membership of the joint Senate - Administration Committee on Admissions and that reference to that Committee be placed in the appropriate chapter of the University Manual.

The status of the committee mentioned in the original paragraph is unclear - it is not mentioned in section 4 of the "By Laws of the Faculty Senate" or Chapter 5 of the Manual, the usual places to describe standing committees. Furthermore, the rather explicit prohibitions and instructions mentioned in the existing paragraph seem to have been the result of an old feud and are arguably detrimental to the reasonable and efficient functioning of the Admissions Office. Considerations such as these prompted our recommendations.

The Committee recommends renumbering to 8.16.11.

8.16.12 Students who have a clear educational or professional objective when they enter the University shall be encouraged to pursue this objective as directly and rapidly as possible, subject to the educational requirements established by the various college faculties and approved by the Senate. They shall be assigned to the appropriate adviser and shall have access to advisers drawn from all University curricula. Entering freshman who do not know which curriculum they want to select shall be encouraged to experiment and "sample" courses in several fields of study. Such students shall also have access to an effective advising system (3.21.21) and shall select at an appropriate time the courses of study which will satisfy entrance requirements to one or more University colleges and curriculums. They shall be assigned to advisers by the Dean of University College.

This is a consolidation of existing 8.16.14 and 8.16.15.

The Committee recommends deleting these sections.

The material in these sections is incorporated elsewhere.

- * 8.16.18 Ordinarily a student shall complete a minimum of 24 semester credits in the University College. A student may transfer from the University College to any one of the baccalaureate degree-granting colleges as long as s/he has met the requirements of that college and has completed a minimum of 24 credit hours (including transfer credits). A student with more than 75 credit hours and at least a 2.0 quality point average may not be registered in the University College.

8.16.19 Each undergraduate degree-granting college shall specify its entrance requirements for its various degree curricula which may each include up to, but not more than, 10 courses (approximately 30 semester credits). None of the various undergraduate colleges shall set entrance standards requiring either a grade point average higher than 2.0 for all courses or for the courses it specifies as entrance requirements, but a college may accept a student with a lower grade point average. All students in the University College are subject to the general University regulations regarding scholastic probation and dismissal (8.23.10-8.25.16).

- * 8.16.20 A student who wishes to change colleges may do so through the mechanisms provided by the University College up to and through the fifth semester of full-time enrollment (full-time is defined as concurrent registration for twelve or more credit hours). After the student's fifth semester s/he shall transfer directly from degree granting college to degree granting college.

8.17.10 Internal Transfer. A student seeking transfer from one college or school to another within the University shall submit his/her credentials for approval to the dean of the college or school to which transfer is sought. If the dean approves the transfer, s/he shall prepare an evaluation of transfer credit and return it with notice of acceptance to the Registrar. The Registrar shall thereafter prepare a new permanent record card for the student, including the transfer credits and such additional credits as are subsequently earned in the college or school to which the student transfers. Student averages, honors and rank shall be computed on the basis of this new record. However, an official transcript of the student's work shall include the record of all work undertaken in all divisions of the University.

8.17.11 Failures incurred in courses required by the college or school to which the student transfers shall be listed on the transfer record and the courses must be repeated at the first opportunity.

8.16.13 A student may transfer from University College to a degree-granting college of the University after completion of at least 24 credit hours (including transfer credits) provided that the requirements for admission to that college have been met. A student who has earned more than 75 credits and has at least a 2.0 quality point average may not be registered as a University College student (see 8.33.12).

8.16.14 A student who has transferred from University College but has earned no more than 75 credits may change colleges through the mechanisms provided by University College. After earning 75 credits, the student will transfer directly from degree-granting college to degree-granting college.

8.16.15 Each undergraduate degree-granting college shall specify its entrance requirements for its various degree curricula which may each include up to, but not more than, 10 courses (approximately 30 semester credits). None of the various undergraduate colleges shall set entrance standards requiring either a quality point average higher than 2.0 for all courses or for the courses it specifies as entrance requirements, but a college may accept a student with a lower quality point average (for exception, see 8.16.16).

These changes are basically editorial clarifications and renumbering.

8.17.10 Internal Transfer. A student seeking transfer from one undergraduate college to another within the university shall submit credentials for approval to the dean of the college to which transfer is sought. If the dean approves the transfer, the dean shall send a notice of acceptance to the Registrar. The official transcript of the student's work shall include the record of all work undertaken in all divisions of the University, and the quality point average reflects all work attempted at the University.

This is a significant change which would reaffirm that the grade point average - sanctioned and attested to by the institution - is in fact an average reflecting the average attained in all work at the University and not just the average attained in a particular program or college.

The Committee recommends deletion of the section.

This section is unnecessarily specific.

8.17.12 A student transferring from one curriculum to another within the same college shall follow the same procedure and be subject to the same regulations as a student transferring between colleges or schools within the University.

8.17.13 If a student subject to probation or dismissal action in one college is accepted for registration in another college or school of the University, s/he may be continued on probation at the discretion of the academic dean of the college or school to which transfer is made.

8.17.14 A student shall be permitted to change from one curriculum to another only at the beginning of a semester. Such changes must be approved by the proper administrative officer. The time limit for approval of such changes shall be 1) for first semester freshmen: two weeks from the beginning of classes; and 2) for all other undergraduates: four class days from the beginning of classes.

The Committee recommends deletion of the section.

Assuming approval of the new 8.17.10, this paragraph is unnecessary.

8.17.11 If a student subject to probationary or conditional status in one college is accepted for registration in another college of the University, the student must be continued on probation or conditional status in the college to which transfer is made.

An editorial change and renumbering.

The Committee recommends deletion of the section.

There is no good reason to continue this restriction.

8.27.12 In preparing papers or themes, a student often needs or is required to employ sources of information or opinion. All such sources used in preparing to write or in writing a paper shall be listed in the bibliography. It is not necessary to give footnote reference for specific facts which are common knowledge and have obtained general agreement. However, facts, observations and opinions which are new discoveries or are debatable shall be identified with correct footnote references even when restated in the student's own words. Material taken word-for-word from the written or oral statement of another person must be enclosed in quotation marks and the source cited. Paraphrasing or summarizing the contents of another's work is usually acceptable if the source is clearly identified but does not constitute independent work and may be rejected by the instructor.

8.27.17 Instructors shall have the explicit duty to take action in known cases of cheating or plagiarism. The instructor shall have the right to fail a student on the assignment on which the instructor has determined that a student has cheated. The circumstances of this failure shall be reported to the student's academic dean. The student may appeal the matter to the instructor's dean, and the decision by the dean shall be expeditious and final.

8.37.14 A matriculating University student who registers for courses during the summer or the academic year at other institutions with the approval of the student's academic dean shall have all the grades and credits included in the student's cumulative record in the same manner as though the courses were taken at the University. Graduate students must earn a grade of "B" or better in graduate level courses (equivalent to 500 level or above) for the courses to be transferred. If the other institution has only a pass-fail grade system or an equivalent one, then pass-fail grades shall be interpreted respectively as University of Rhode Island "P" and "F" grades in calculating the student's cumulative record.

8.27.12 In preparing papers or themes, a student often needs or is required to employ sources of information or opinion. All such sources used in preparing to write or in writing a paper shall be listed in the bibliography. It is not necessary to give footnote reference for specific facts which are common knowledge or have obtained general agreement. However, facts, observations and opinions which are new discoveries or ~~are~~ debatable shall be identified with correct footnote references even when restated in the student's own words. Material taken word for word from the written or oral statement of another person must be enclosed in quotation marks or otherwise clearly distinguished from the body of the text and the source cited. Paraphrasing or summarizing the contents of another's work usually is acceptable if the source is clearly identified but does not constitute independent work and may be rejected by the instructor.

The minor change is recommended in recognition that there are a variety of acceptable way of indicating non-original material.

8.27.17 Instructors shall have the explicit duty to take action in known cases of cheating or plagiarism. The instructor shall have the right to fail a student on the assignment on which the instructor has determined that a student has cheated or plagiarized. The circumstances of this failure shall be reported to the student's academic dean. The student may appeal the matter to the instructor's dean, and the decision by the dean shall be expeditious and final.

This is an editorial change.

8.37.14 A matriculating University student who, with the approval of a student's academic dean, registers for course during the summer or the academic year at other institutions shall have those course credits included in the student's cumulative record in the same manner as transfer credit. (See 8.13.13)

This change - prompted by a request from Dean Strommer - insures that the quality point average reflects only work completed at this University.